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1TO: ATTORNEY GENERAL

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Dennis C. Daggett
363 Center Road
Lopez Island, WA 98261-8298

January 28, 2002

Attorney General Jon Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing today to encourage the Department of Justice to accept the Microsoft antitrust settlement. The issue was brought about the former administration that simply did not understand the technology industry. They ignored one of the things that makes this country the best in the world, our free enterprise system. Then to top it all off, they extended their socialistic philosophy to apply antiquated antitrust laws to a brand new industry.

In the free market, Microsoft rose to the top because they had the best products. Their products are user friendly and Microsoft has made them very easy to integrate and at lower cost than the alternatives. It is no wonder that where people had a choice most choose Microsoft software. Under the terms of the settlement Microsoft has agreed to allow computer makers the flexibility to install and promote any software they see fit. Microsoft has also agreed not to enter into any agreement that would require a computer maker to use a fixed percentage of Microsoft software. I believe that computer makers will continue to predominately preinstall Microsoft software because it is the best and most computer buyers will choose a Microsoft Windows based computer when making a new purchase. This is not a monopoly problem, Microsoft simply is, supplying a better product and most people know it.

My experience as supervisor of an electric power generation plant for over 15 years, offered me the opportunity to try many brands of computer software products and computer equipment. What I found over time was that even when cost was not a consideration, products that were not Microsoft based, did not perform satisfactorily. Microsoft products and windows based computers were simply the best. On top of that we experienced significant savings over other options. Sure Microsoft has made a lot of money, but can you imagine the cost to the people of our nation if Microsoft and all they have provided for us vanished or had never existed? This is my plea for justice in our mechanized and technological society.

Microsoft has gotten to where they are by developing better products, not by crushing their competitors. This suit and the fact it has gone on for over three years is simply mind-boggling. It is time to end it. DO NOT PUNISH MICROSOFT FOR BEING BETTER. Please accept the Microsoft antitrust settlement.

Sincerely,



Dennis C. Daggett